GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2587
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2016
Padhe Bharat, Badhe Bharat
Ajmal Shri Sirajuddin

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the status of the "Padhe Bharat, Badhe Bharat" programme focusing on early reading, writing, comprehension and mathematics;
(b) the details regarding the response/ cooperation of different States to expedite the said programme in the States, State/ UT- wise;
(c) the details about the funds allocated/ released and utilised by the Government for the purpose, State-wise; and
(d) the other steps taken by the Government for all-round development of the children under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a): Padhe Bharat Badhe Bharat (PBBB) is a sub-programme of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyaan (SSA) which is a centrally sponsored scheme implemented to support the States/UTs for universalization of elementary education across the country. It was launched on 26th August, 2014 to ensure quality at the foundational years of schooling i.e., classes I & II. The objectives of the programme are to promote early reading and writing with comprehension skills in children, and also basic numeracy skills. The programme envisages dedicated teachers for Classes I & II. It centers on the capacity building of teachers, organizing separate reading periods in the daily school time-table, maintaining a print rich environment, for reading through children's literature in school libraries and reading corners in classes I & II. Special bridge materials have also been prepared for States having a high tribal population.
(b): States/ UTs are implementing PBBB in their respective States/UTs using multiple strategies and approaches. These include adoption of NCERT model of early reading, provision of supplementary reading material, development of State specific models for early Maths and early reading, collaboration with organisations like UNICEF etc. Details of activities being conducted by various States/ UTs is at Annexure- I.
(c): States/UT's have been approved funds under SSA amounting to Rs. 456 crores in 2014-15 and Rs. 525 crores in 2015-16 for various activities under PBBB. Statewise details are at Annexure- II.
(d): Under SSA 15.59 lakh teacher posts have been filled up as on 31st August, 2015. Additionally, the State Governments and UT Administrations are supported on several interventions to improve teaching standards, including regular in-service teachers' training, induction training for newly recruited teachers, recruitment of additional teachers for improving pupil-teacher ratios, academic support for teachers through block and cluster resource centres, continuous and comprehensive evaluation system to equip the teacher to measure pupil performance and provide remedial action wherever required, and teacher and school grants for development of appropriate teaching-learning materials, etc. The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 specifies statutory duties and responsibilities of teachers and lays down the minimum qualifications for a person to be eligible for appointment as a teacher in elementary schools.
The Central Government has launched Rashtriya Aavishkar Abhiyan (RAA), inter alia, as a sub-component of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA), to motivate and engage children of the age group from 6-18 years in Science, Mathematics and Technology through observation, experimentation, inference drawing, model building, etc. both through inside and outside classroom activities.
The Central Government has launched the 'Pandit Madan Mohan Malviya National Mission on Teachers and Teaching' in December, 2014 with a vision to comprehensively address all issues related to teachers, teaching, teacher preparation, professional development, curriculum design, research in pedagogy and developing effective pedagogy.
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